



Friday 8th October 2021

Anker Valley Newsletter

'Inspiring all to excellence'



Dear Parents,

I would like to begin by saying thank you to parents and carers who attended our Harvest celebration this morning and to those who sent in donations for the Tamworth Food Bank. We were truly honoured by your generosity. I am sure that with the winter months approaching, the offering will be greatly received.

Our School Development Plan is currently focusing on the development of Dragonflies indoor and outdoor learning areas. We would like to thank the parents that have made donations of dressing up clothes, props, etc. Any further donations would be warmly received by the staff and children. For our outdoor area we would really appreciate plant pots, small gardening tools, watering cans, etc.

Best wishes for the weekend ahead, Mrs Horlor.

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week:
Hollie (Dragonflies)
Ronnie (Dragonflies)
Oliver (Butterflies)



Reader of the Week:
Luna (Dragonflies)



Outstanding Citizen:
Daniel (Dragonflies)

What we have been learning about this week in Butterflies

This week, the Butterflies have made their own roads for their bikes. They included traffic lights, a zebra crossing and even a Dinosaur Land! We talked about how to cross the road safely using a zebra crossing while looking both ways and what happens when traffic lights change colour.

In our construction area, the Butterflies have enjoyed using different resources to build their own houses and dressing up as builders.



Reminder!

Monday 11th October is an INSET Day, meaning that school is closed to all pupils.



International Walk to School Month

October is *International Walk to School Month* to raise awareness of the contribution that traffic pollution makes to climate change and the effect that it has on wildlife and natural habitats around the world. Mrs Horlor and Mrs Free will be keeping a record of those who are walking everyday and there will be a special prize at the end of October for those who manage it every day.

We would also love to see some photos of you walking, cycling or scooting to school! Please send any photos to office@ankervalley.org

Attendance

Dragonflies (This week): 93.93%

Dragonflies (This term): 95.38%

Our weekly attendance has dipped again towards the end of this week, as there are still lots of colds lingering. Can we please encourage you to send your child to school every day (unless displaying Covid symptoms), we will always let you know if they are unwell in school.



Just a reminder, that the yellow zig zag lines outside the school gates **should not be parked on at any time**; please help us to keep our children safe. We have also spotted some vehicles blocking neighbour's driveways opposite the school; could we please ask that if you do need to drive that you please park respectfully.

Happy 5th birthday to Nylah and Edith in Dragonflies!



We hope you both had a lovely day filled with celebrations. Best wishes, your Anker Valley Family.



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What we have been learning about this week in Dragonflies

This week, linked to World Mental Health Day, Dragonflies have been thinking about their feelings and things that they can do to help them to relax and manage their emotions. We have read the story 'The Colour Monster' and talked about times when we have felt happy, sad, scared, calm, angry and loved like the monster in the story. We have used stick puppets in our reading area to re-tell the story and story stones with different emotions painted on them to help us talk about how we are feeling.

On our creative table this week, we have painted pictures of our own colour monsters, thinking carefully about the colours we have chosen and how we can mix colours together to create new colours. Keep a look out for these on the display board outside.

In our outside area, we have enjoyed riding our new bikes. We have also been practising our mark making skills on the lovely new flower shaped chalk boards we have in our outside area.

In maths, we have been thinking about repeating patterns. We have had a go at making some of our own with our lovely foam shapes and with the natural resources we have collected.

In our writing this week, we have designed our own monster and tried to write the feeling he/she represented. Mrs Free, Miss Garrett and Mrs Horlor were all very impressed with our beautiful writing. We have continued to learn new sounds in phonics, and we have been introduced to ck, e, u and r. In our handwriting sessions, we have practised the letter formation of i, n, m and d. We have also been learning to read the words 'I' and 'is'.





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Dates for your Diary

11th October – Inset Day (School closed to pupils)

14th October – Open Evening for Reception Parents 2022 - 5pm – 6pm

Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October – Half Term

2nd and 4th November – Parents Consultations

12th November – Children in Need Day – Children to wear something spotty.

3rd December – 9:15am – Christingle Family Assembly

16th December – 9:15am – Reception Nativity and Carols

10th December – 3:30pm – 5:00pm – Christmas Fayre

17th December – Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner and Christmas Party

20th December – Christmas Holidays Start

4th January – Inset Day (School closed to pupils)

5th January – Spring Term Starts

21st February – 25th February – Half Term

October Half Term Holiday

Club - OPOJ,

Held at Dosthill Primary Academy.

For further information and registration packs, please contact

LWhetton@opoj.fierte.org



Mrs Horlor's Marathon!



Mrs Horlor completed the Chester Marathon on Sunday 3rd October, accompanied by the Anker Valley mascot (who received lots of attention throughout the 26.2 miles!) She would like to thank everyone for their well wishes and for tracking her progress while she ran.

Reception Starters for September 2022

If your child's fifth birthday is between **1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023**, you will be no doubt be starting to think about applying for a Reception place for September 2022.

At Anker Valley, we pride ourselves on offering an education where we aspire for excellence for all, by offering a bespoke curriculum that takes influence from our local area and the natural environment. We would love you to come to see this for yourself and have a tour of our newly built school at our open evening on **Thursday 14th October at 5:00pm.**

For further information about the event, please contact our school office on 01827 949310 or via email on office@ankervalley.org. We look forward to meeting you.

Save the Date!

On **Friday 17th December** we will be inviting parents to join the children for Christmas Dinner. There will be a small charge for this and further information about booking will be sent out closer to the time.



Safeguarding – Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs Natalie Horlor (Head of School) nhorlor@ankervalley.org

Mrs Maria Hamblin (Executive Head teacher and CEO) CEO@fierte.org

Mr Toby Swift (Safeguarding Lead Governor) office@ankervalley.org

The school Safeguarding Policy is available to view on our school website.